

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to describe the dividers as forming "a plurality" of orifices. Support for same is provided for example, by Figure 1. Additionally, claim 1 has been amended to require that a portion of orifices are disposed in the applicator head at acute angles to the cross section of the package normal to such flow. See Figures 1 and 3, and the description in the last paragraph at page 8, first paragraph, page 9. New claim 10 specifies the head as having a plurality of orifices that are approximately 90° to the applicator surface. See Figure 3, and the specification at page 9, first paragraph.

Claims 1 to 9 stand rejected as anticipated by or obvious over US 5,547,302 ("Dornbusch et al.").

The subject invention is directed to a dispenser head for dispensing a product such as a cream, soft solid, or solid. More particularly, the dispenser has a design that releases the residual stress of products, particularly soft solid products that are anisotropic and do not transmit stress equally in all directions. The alleviation of such stress is of particular interest in dispensing products such as soft solid antiperspirant compositions, the dispensing of which often gives rise to a problem where seizing of the solid particles of the material inside the container increases the tendency of the composition's liquid material to continue to flow out of the container or "weep".

The subject invention addresses this problem by configuring the dispenser head with both a relatively large surface area for flow (which is accomplished, for example, by the multi-level, honeycomb-like orifice array illustrated in Figures 1 and 2, an arrangement in which the orifices are configured at various angles relative to the cross section of the package normal to flow) and a divider array having a particular cross sectional configuration.

Dornbusch et al. is directed to a dispenser having a honeycomb-like array of orifices, however, those orifices are generally in the same dispensing plane and

dispensing direction (i.e., the surface is generally flat). Moreover, the patent does not disclose or suggest increasing the open surface of the dispenser head relative to the head's cross sectional configuration (i.e. introducing a multi planar orifice configuration). More particularly, there is nothing in Dornbusch et al. that discloses or suggests providing a portion of the orifices with the configurations described in amended claim 1 or new claim 10, or the basket/spoke structures described in claims 7 and 9. Missing at least one critical element required by the claims, the patent does not disclose or suggest the invention herein described.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application as hereby amended is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the present application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Karen E. Klumas", is written over a horizontal line.

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